

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action issued on August 3, 2010. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 20 and 39 have been amended and claims 13, 32, and 51 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 1-13, 16-18, 20-32, 35-37, 39-51, 54-56, 58-65, and 67-72 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 20 and 39 are independent. Claims 1-13, 16-18, 20-32, 35-37, 39-51, 54-56, 58-65, and 67-72 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0032094 A1 to Ghosh et al. (“Ghosh”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,988,138 to Alcorn et al. (“Alcorn”).

Response to Rejection under 35 USC 103

The Applicants respond to the rejection of these claims as follows:

Independent Claims 1, 20, and 39 have been rejected over Ghosh in view of Alcorn. Ghosh et al. describes a system and method for managing licensing information based on (i) a source of licensing requirements information, (ii) a license database of license information, (iii) a processor operable to modify license information in the database and retrieve information from the database according to criteria, and (iv) the transmission of email messages. Ghosh tracks external training of professional employees as described in Paragraphs 008, 0012 and 0071.

In contrast, claims 1, 20, and 39 disclose a method, a system and a program product for entities in managing, distributing, tracking and training of users, typically licensed professional based provided training information. In addition, the users are also

provided with a list of communications options for selection by the users, wherein each listed communications option corresponds to a type of dialog available to the users for communicating with another user.

Claims 1, 20, and 39 have been amended to recite “providing a list of communications options for selection by the user, wherein each listed communications option corresponds to a type of dialog available to the user for communicating with another user.” Applicant submits Claim 1, 20, and 39 define subject matter not disclosed or suggested in Ghosh.

Alcorn does not cure the deficiencies of Ghosh. Alcorn discloses a system and methods for implementing education online by providing institutions with the means for allowing the creation of courses to be taken by students online. The courses include assignments, announcements, course materials, chat and whiteboard facilities, and the like, all of which are available to the students over a network such as the Internet. Various levels of functionality are provided through a three-tiered licensing program that suits the needs of the institution offering the program. Alcorn fails to disclose “providing a list of communications options for selection by the user, wherein each listed communications option corresponds to a type of dialog available to the user for communicating with another user.” Accordingly, the combination of Ghosh and Alcorn fail to disclose the claimed invention of claims 1, 20, and 39.

Conclusion

In view of the amendment of independent claims 1, 20, and 39 to recite subject matter not disclosed or suggested by the cited references, the Applicants submit that the Examiner’s rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants

respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

Additional Fees

A Petition for Extension of Time and fee is submitted concurrently herewith extending the time period for response three months to and including February 3, 2011. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-4545 (5338-002-US01).

Respectfully Submitted,

/Chadwick A. Jackson #46,495/

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Chadwick A. Jackson
Reg. No. 46,495

Murphy & King, Professional Corporation
1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 403-2102 Tel.
(202) 429-4380 Fax